



**Rocky Mountain
Farmers Union**

7900 E. Union Ave., Suite 200 • Denver CO 80237
303.752.5800 • 1.800.373.7638 • rmfu.org

January 24, 2022

Senator Mimi Stewart
490 Old Santa Fe Trail
Capitol Room 115A
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Re: SB 14

Dear Senator Stewart,

Rocky Mountain Farmers Union (RMFU) supports SB14, and we believe that adopting this legislation will be a progressive step forward. Bridging the gap between energy and agriculture is vital and this legislation will allow New Mexico's farmers and ranchers the opportunity to convert their plant and animal waste into energy, effectively converting that biomass into dollars. Adding additional offsets such as advanced carbon markets would also help farmers absorb what may be a slight rise in fuel costs. Along with converting biomass into energy we look forward to the job creation that will result in rural New Mexico. For too long we have seen our children graduate from our local schools and never return to rural areas simply because we don't have jobs for them back home.

We must do this together for the health of our citizens and the health of our economy. As the rules developed will have an impact on agriculture, RMFU would appreciate a seat at the table when the rules are adopted to assure this program works effectively and without unintended consequences.

Our members support all sources of energy, but our interest in reducing fossil fuel production and increasing alternative fuel sources is important. Agriculture can play a big role in this reduction.

Rocky Mountain Farmers Union is a progressive, grassroots organization dedicated to achieving profitability for family farmers and ranchers while promoting stewardship of land and water resources. We strive to deliver safe, healthy food to consumers, and strengthening rural communities through education, legislation, and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dale McCall
President, Rocky Mountain Farmers Union

For additional questions and if you wish to discuss any of our position on SB14, please reach out to:
Bill Midcap, RMFU Senior Policy Advisor, bill.midcap@rmfu.org